



MARCH 1991

CLUB CALL - W9RH

FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT

OFFICERS

President
Ed Wille
W9PWG
461-5961

1st Vice-president
J. Travis Baird
W9VQD
352-9642

2nd Vice-president
Fred Ljun
W9NZF
377-3280

Secretary
Ed Seruga
KE9JJ
543-6299

Treasurer
Dean Kiefer
KB9DNE
962-0280

Chairman of the Board
Ted Stiller
WA9RDI
871-7486

Directors
Jack Krause
W9JK
774-6999

Joe Rayome
KE9LL
463-7668

Mary Rutishauser
WB9PKL
782-3633

Dick Schlatterer
KA9MTY
354-7452

Roger Zaun
W9UVV
242-4931

Les Peterson, W9YCV, presented a three part program at the February meeting. First, he gave an overview of the Wisconsin QSO Party which is sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateurs' Club (see Coming Events in last month's Chatter for details). Next, Les discussed the topic of satellite communications. During this part of the presentation, he mentioned which birds (satellites) are currently in use and the frequencies they employ, the types and modes of communications available, and the use of computer programs for satellite tracking. Lastly, he gave a short primer on packet radio communications.

We thank Les for coming up with such an enjoyable and informative program. It is even more remarkable considering the short span of time he was given to prepare his presentation. Thanks, again, for a job well done.

VEC LICENSE EXAMS

The MRAC-VEC will be conducting license exams on Wednesday evening, April 3rd at 7:00 P.M. in Rm. 256 of Wauwatosa East High School. The school is located on the corner of 76th St. and Milwaukee Avenue. The current amateur license (if any) and two (2) photocopies are required along with one other form of identification. An exam fee of \$5.00 for all exams except the Novice will be collected at the time of registration. To register in advance, contact Jack Krause, W9JK, at 774-6999. Walk-ins on exam day are accepted.

The year seems to be passing very quickly. It is now close to the middle of March and time to start thinking about all the things to be done once the weather is warm enough. Now, at least, any snow which does fall won't be hanging around too long. Already I have seen a few ambitious spring flowers poking their first leaves above the soil. When you add the fact that my cats are beginning to shed furiously, an early spring seems to be a real possibility.

Of course, the advent of spring means that the possibility of severe weather is once more upon us. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is devoting the March and April meetings to severe weather training. For more information, listen or check into the 9:00 PM Monday Net on the 146.67 repeater or contact KE9LL, MRAC's ARES liaison.

Election of Club Officers will be held at the May meeting. Three spots on the Board of Directors are coming up for consideration. President Ed Wille, W9PWG, has appointed the following Nominating Committee:

Ed Seruga KE9JJ
Roger Zaun W9UVV
Fred Krause W9VLK
Vern Teske W9RYA

At the last meeting the membership authorized the purchase of a Cushcraft A3S antenna for use at Field Day and other Club events. This will go nicely with the transceiver which the Club recently acquired. Ed, W9PWG, has given that unit a complete going over and reports that it checks out fine, i.e. it receives and transmits just like it's supposed to do.

Lastly, the Old Timers' Party held at the end of last year was reported to be a success with over 60 people attending. There were plenty of door prizes and flowers were available for all the YL's. A good time was had by all.

There will be no Spring Get-Together this year.

MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting of the Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club will be held on Thursday, March 28th at 7:30 PM in Room 280 of Wauwatosa East High School. The doors will open at 7:00 PM for ragchewing and the like. The title for this meeting's program is "Clockwise - Time and Frequency." It will be presented by Ed Wille, W9PWG. He will also bring his FM10C frequency and deviation meter and hold an HT clinic after the program. If you would like to have your handi-talkie checked out, bring it with you to this month's meeting.

ARRL BULLETINS

SPECIAL BULLETIN 5

Doug Loughmiller, KO5I, reports interference to mode A communications through RS 12 and RS 13 satellites. The problem seems to be coming from 10 meter FM transmissions. AMSAT requests that ten meter FM operators avoid 29.3 to 29.5 MHz.

PROPAGATION FORECAST BULLETIN 8

Last week we reported the return of an active region to the visible surface of the Sun, and its effects on HF propagation. With the passing of this region, the forecast at that time was for stable conditions and very little chance of solar flares, which turned out to be wrong. Instead, the Sun gave us quite a bit of flare activity, especially on March 5. By the middle of that day local time, major flares were observed at 0009, 0312, 0512, 0914 and 1721 UTC. This resulted in a number of sudden fades in HF radio propagation. Since then, the solar activity has been high to very high, with geomagnetic conditions unsettled to active.

For the forecast week, look for solar activity to increase from moderate to high levels, with geomagnetic conditions mostly unsettled. The predicted 10.7 cm flux/planetary A index values for March 9 through 15 are 230/18, 235/15, 240/15, 250/15, 260/15, 270/10 and 280/10. We could see more flare activity, but the high A index values for this week are predicted due to the presence of a large coronal hole on the surface of the Sun, and not from flares.

American sunspot numbers for February 28 through March 6 were 89, 96, 77, 52, 59, 71 and 97 respectively, with a mean figure of 77.3.

SATELLITE BULLETIN 70

AO10 apogee times and longitudes, MAR 12 0618Z AT 067W 1758Z AT@242W
MAR 13 0537Z AT 057W 1717Z AT 232W
AO13 apogee times and longitudes, MAR 12 1031Z AT 166W 2158Z AT 338W
MAR 13 0925Z AT 150W 2051Z AT 323W

SCHOOL NOTICE

The dates for the spring session of the H. Charles Kaetel Amateur Radio School have been determined. Classes will run from March 13th until May 15th, 1991, with no meeting during Easter Week. As previously, they will be held on Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM at Wauwatosa East High School. There is still time to register.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR HAMATEUR CHATTER

Articles for inclusion in this publication should be submitted to the editor NO LATER than the 7th day of the month of publication. Therefore, please have any information for the April newsletter to me by the end of Sunday, April 7th. Your cooperation in this is greatly appreciated.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following new members of MRAC.

Mike Vande Bunt, N9KHZ
Tom Fuszard, associate member
Orv Stewart, KA9ONO

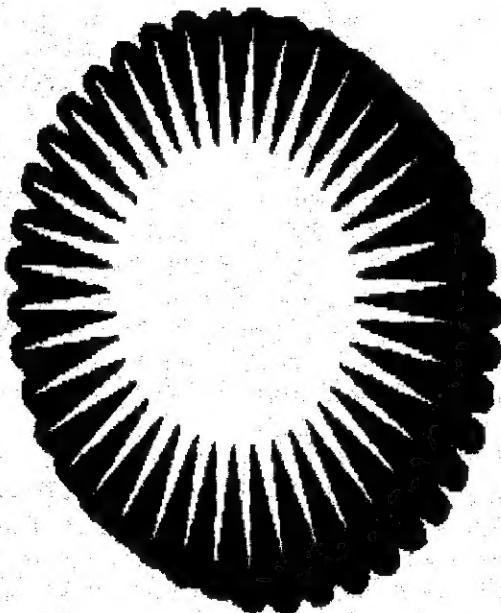
DEPARTURES

Bob Glamm, W9UGN, has recently left this area for the warmer climate of Fedhaven, Florida. Good luck at the new QTH, Bob.



FOR SALE

With the purchase of a new beam, the MRAC is offering for sale the Butternut Butterfly antenna, a small two element beam covering 20, 17, 15, 12, and 10 meters. This antenna was only used once by the club and is more suited to a permanent installation than to the up and down use to which club antennae are subjected. The club is asking for a minimum of \$100 for this item. If you are interested, contact Ed Wille, W9PWG, or any of the club's officers.



MILWAUKEE AREA NET INFORMATION

TIME	DAY	FREQUENCY (MHz)	SUBJECT
9:00 PM	Monday	146.67	Milwaukee-Waukesha ARES
9:00 PM	Tuesday	145.13	MAARS Roundtable
8:00 PM	Wednesday	28.365	Milwaukee Chapter of 10-10 International
9:00 PM	Thursday	146.91	6.91 Computer Net
9:00 PM	Friday	28.400	W9RH on the air. MRAC Club Station
8:00 PM	Sunday	28.805	Milwaukee Chapter of 10-10 International
8:30 PM	Sunday	146.91	6.91 Information Net
9:00 PM	Sunday	146.91	6.91 Swapnet

The 2 meter frequencies are FM repeaters, all are -600KHz offset. The 10 meter frequencies are USB.

If there any nets which you would like added to this list, please contact the editor of this publication.